

**Amendments to the Claims:**

Claims 1-7 were pending. Claim 1 has been amended herein. Applicants have added new claims 8-18. Please note that all claims currently pending and under consideration in the referenced application are shown below. Please enter these claims as amended and added. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended)      A method for improving the performance of a decoder, comprising:  
   determining an energy value for a transmission from a first station to a second station, the decoder residing in the second station;  
   forming a message carrying the energy value; and  
   transmitting the message to the second station, wherein the energy value aids the decoder to decode the transmission.
2. (Original)    The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of transmitting the message comprises positioning the message in a preamble.
3. (Original)    The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of transmitting the message comprises positioning the message in a subpacket.
4. (Original)    The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of transmitting the message comprises positioning the message between a preamble and a subpacket.
5. (Original)    The method Claim 1, wherein the step of forming a message carrying the energy value comprises:  
   locating the energy value in look-up table; and  
   including an index value corresponding to the energy value in the message.

6. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the first station is a base station and the second station is a remote station.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the first station is a remote station and the second station is a base station.

8. (New) An apparatus for improving the performance of a decoder, comprising:  
means for determining an energy value for a transmission from a first station to a second station, the decoder residing in the second station;  
means for forming a message carrying the energy value; and  
means for transmitting the message to the second station, wherein the energy value aids the decoder to decode the transmission.

9. (New) A computer-readable media including computer-readable instructions thereon for performing the steps of:  
determining an energy value for a transmission from a first station to a second station, a decoder residing in the second station;  
forming a message carrying the energy value; and  
transmitting the message to the second station, wherein the energy value aids the decoder to decode the transmission.

10. (New) An apparatus for improving the performance of a decoder, comprising:  
a transmission power control unit for determining an energy value for a transmission from a first station to a second station, the decoder residing in the second station; and  
a channel element coupled to the transmission power control unit for forming a message carrying the energy value and for transmitting the message to the second station, wherein the energy value aids the decoder to decode the transmission.

11. (New) The apparatus of Claim 10, wherein the transmitting the message comprises positioning the message in a preamble.

12. (New) The apparatus of Claim 10, wherein the transmitting the message comprises positioning the message in a subpacket.

13. (New) The apparatus of Claim 10, wherein the transmitting the message comprises positioning the message between a preamble and a subpacket.

14. (New) The apparatus Claim 10, wherein the forming a message carrying the energy value comprises:

locating the energy value in look-up table; and  
including an index value corresponding to the energy value in the message.

15. (New) The apparatus of Claim 10, wherein the first station is a base station and the second station is a remote station.

16. (New) The apparatus of Claim 10 wherein the first station is a remote station and the second station is a base station.

17. (New) A base station for improving the performance of a decoder, comprising:  
a transmission power control unit for determining an energy value for a transmission to a remote station, the decoder residing in the remote station;  
a channel element coupled to the transmission power control unit for forming a message carrying the energy value, wherein the energy value aids the decoder to decode the transmission;  
and  
a transmitter adapted to transmit the message in a forward link channel to the remote station.

18. (New) A remote station for improving the performance of a decoder, comprising:  
a transmission power control unit for determining an energy value for a transmission to a base station, the decoder residing in the base station;

a channel element coupled to the transmission power control unit for forming a message carrying the energy value, wherein the energy value aids the decoder to decode the transmission;  
and

a transmitter adapted to transmit the message in a reverse link channel to the base station.